United Nations S/2000/653

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 July 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 6 July 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward a letter dated 6 July 2000 from Momir Bulatović, President of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relative to the disputed question of Prevlaka, addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-52052 (E) 060700

Annex to the letter dated 6 July 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I wish to address you on behalf of the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in connection with the forthcoming debate in the Security Council of the question of the mandate of the Mission of the United Nations on Prevlaka.

I wish to request that the Security Council of the United Nations extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) to a new period of six months beginning on 15 July 2000, considering that the disputed issue of Prevlaka has not yet been resolved.

I wish to point out on this occasion that my Government highly appreciates the contribution of the Mission of the United Nations to the maintenance of the established system of security on Prevlaka.

The positions of my Government in connection with the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka were communicated in greater detail in the letter of the Head of the Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations of 20 June 2000; I would like to bring to your attention some of the most important ones.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls for the continued stay of the Mission of the United Nations on Prevlaka until the two countries solve this disputed issue bilaterally as provided for in the Agreement on Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia, signed in Belgrade on 23 August 1996.

The Yugoslav side calls for the respect of the established concept of the "Blue" zone (1992), according to which only the members of the United Nations are allowed access to it.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is ready to resume the negotiations that were interrupted in March 1999. It was expressed in the letter that the Chairman of the Yugoslav delegation for negotiations on Prevlaka sent to the Chairman of the Croatian delegation on 8 June 2000. The readiness for the resumption of negotiations was also expressed by the Croatian side but it has not yet extended a concrete invitation to the Yugoslav delegation to a meeting.

It is important that the two sides have accepted the rule of *uti possidetis* in the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka. However, there are differences in the application of the rule. The two sides view differently the extension of the border in the disputed area of Prevlaka. The Yugoslav side has proposed that the application of the rule *uti possidetis* be considered at the forthcoming meeting of the delegations.

Considering that the disputed issue of Prevlaka has not been solved and that the presence of the Mission of the United Nations is very important, the Federal Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission of the United Nations for the next six months in its unchanged form.

(*Signed*) Momir **Bulatović**